

Preface

The RAS is an organic element of the corps ACR and ACR/L. The DCS is an organic element of the armored, light infantry, and airborne divisions. The ACS is an organic element of the air assault division. The ACT is the basic element of the RAS, DCS, and ACS. The RASs, DCSs, ACS, and ACTs are organized and equipped to perform reconnaissance and security operations in support of the overall scheme of maneuver. In addition, the RASs, DCSs, and ACS each play a vital role in command and control enhancement for their higher headquarters. Successful employment of these units on the modern battlefield depends heavily on the proper use of the tenets of Army operations.

This manual describes the organizational structure of the RAS, DCS, ACS, and ACT; as well as the doctrinal and tactical employment of these units on the modern battlefield. Appendixes A through K provide supplemental material on risk management, aircraft characteristics, OH-58D systems, movement and rapid deployment, assembly area operations, troop order guide, JAAT, ASE, fratricide prevention, environmental concerns and compliance, and air-ground integration. This manual is based on the doctrinal and tactical employment principles outlined in FMs 1-100, 1-111, 17-95, 100-5, 101-5, and 101-5-1. The RAS and DCS represent the smallest combined arms maneuver force on the battlefield. The versatility, maneuverability, and lethality these units bring to the battle can best be understood and used through the application of this manual in conjunction with FMs 17-95 and 17-97. This manual is intended for use by RAS, DCS, ACS, and ACT commanders, as well as a practical tool for ground commanders.

This manual applies to commanders and staffs who will lead, employ, or fight with a RAS, DCS, ACS, or ACT and to soldiers assigned to these types of organizations. It also serves as a reference for flight crews learning to understand and conduct reconnaissance and security operations in the RAS, DCS, ACS, and ACT.

The proponent of this publication is Headquarters, TRADOC. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) to Commander, USAAVNC and Fort Rucker, ATTN: ATZQ-TDS-D, Fort Rucker, AL 36362-5263.

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.